

1. A method of integrating a third party device into a building control system, the building control system having a workstation running building control system program instructions and a field panel in communication with the workstation, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a user interface for the input of data regarding a third party device;

accepting data input from the user regarding the third party device through the user interface;

launching an integration tool in response to the data input from the user regarding the third party device;

generating an integration file by the launched integration tool for use by a driver associated with the third party device; and

loading the generated integration file into a field panel for use by the driver associated with the third party device.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of launching an integration tool in response to the data input from the user regarding the third party device comprises launching an application builder.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the step of generating an integration file by the launched integration tool for use by a driver associated with

the third party device comprises generating an integration file comprising an integration application file.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of providing a user interface for the input of data regarding the third party device includes providing a user interface comprising at least one dialog box for the input of data regarding the third party device.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of loading the generated integration file into a field panel for use by the driver associated with the third party device comprises flashing the generated integration file into memory of the field panel.

6. A building control system comprising:
a workstation running building control system software;
a field panel in electronic communication with said workstation via a network; and

a software integration tool configured to generate a database that will run in conjunction with said building control system software and to aid in integrating a third party device into the building control system, said software integration tool operative to a) provide a user interface for the input of data regarding a third party device, b) accept data input from the user regarding the third party device through the user interface, c) launch an application builder in response to the

data input from the user regarding the third party device, d) generate an application file by the launched application builder for use by a driver associated with the third party device, and d) load the generated application file into a field panel for use by the driver associated with the third party device.

7. The building control system of claim 6, wherein the integration tool is operative to provide a user interface for the input of data regarding the third party device by providing at least one dialog box for the input of data regarding the third party device.

8. The building control system of claim 6, wherein the integration tool is operative to load the generated application file into said field panel for use by a driver associated with the third party device by flashing the generated application file into memory of the field panel.

9. The building control system of claim 6, wherein said software integration tool is stored on a computer of a user.

10. A software tool to facilitate integration of a third party device into a building automation system that communicates with and controls building control devices in a building, the software tool comprising:

a graphical user interface operative to interface with a user and accept user input regarding the third party device;

a plurality of drivers facilitating communication of a plurality of devices with the building automation system; and

a database storing communication protocol information for third party devices;

the graphical user interface presenting selections facilitating identification of the third party device added to the building automation system and accessing the database to generate an integration application for use with one of the plurality of drivers to facilitate communication of the added third party device with the building automation system.

11. The software tool of claim 10, wherein said graphical user interface is operative to interface with a user and accept user input regarding the third party device via one or more dialog boxes.

12. The software tool of claim 10, wherein said software tool allows the generation of said integration application through incorporation of selected building system points.

13. The software tool of claim 12, wherein said software tool allows incorporation of selected building system points by importing a comma separated file of points therein.

14. The software tool of claim 12, wherein said software tool allows incorporation of selected building system points through individual selection of available building system points.

15. The software tool of claim 14, wherein said individual selection of available building system points is present by said graphical user interface as a selectable menu of available building system points.

16. In a building control system having a workstation and at least one field panel, a method of operating the building control system comprising the steps of:

detecting a user generated modification to a field panel data element by a field panel of the building control system;

storing data regarding the detected user generated modification to the field panel data element;

appending field panel modification data to the data regarding the detected user generated modification to the field panel data element to define stored appended field modification data; and

transmitting, by the field panel, the stored appended field modification data to the workstation.